

PUBLIC SESSION.  
MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT

FEBRUARY 11, 1980

The Regular Public Session of the Mayor and City Council was called to order at 8:05 P.M. The following Councilmembers were in attendance:

- |                           |                         |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Virginius Williams | 4. Mr. Thomas Brooks    |
| 2. Mr. Ernest Digennaro   | 5. Mrs. Rosalie Jones   |
| 3. Mr. Frank Blackwell    | 6. Mr. Joseph Whitfield |

Mr. Gallion arrived at 8:15 P.M..

The Minutes for the January 14, 1980 Public Session were read and approved as amended: (1). Mr. Whitfield's name was inadvertently omitted. (2). The George Palmer Highway Landscape Project will begin in the Fall rather than Spring.

PUBLIC SPEAKERS

- . Mr. John Walker requested a drive-way apron. Another concern is that he feels that the Mayor and the Council should be made aware of the problem at Tanney Jr. High School. There has been a continuous dropping of students grades and he feels this problem is with the school.
- . Mr. Thomas Burton, President of the Seat Pleasant Jaycees came forth and personally thanked the Council for the support they gave at the Benefit that was held to raise funds when his home burned down last December. Secondly, he would like the Council to consider a reduction on the cost of renting the Activity Center since the Jaycees will provide programs and services for the Citizens of Seat Pleasant.
- . Mr. Blackwell suggested that Mr. Burton discuss his proposal with Mr. Gallion Chairman of the Recreation Committee.
- . Mr. Jeff Dingle presented to the Council a letter from Mrs. Ella Pickett whom was also present. Mr. Blackwell asked the Clerk to read the letter aloud so that the Public would also know its contents. Mrs. Rosalie Jones also made a recommendation to the Council that the letter be read aloud and she would respond to it.
- . Mrs. Pickett felt that there was a need for the Council to hear the charges that were brought against her because of the implication of child abuse by Mrs. Jones.
- . Mrs. Rosalie Jones gave an explanation of the charges and the incident that occurred between herself and Mrs. Pickett.
- . Mr. Blackwell addressed Mrs. Pickett and Mrs. Jones by saying that this was a very unfortunate incident. He felt that there was justification on both sides but it was not up to the Council to make a judgement. Councilmembers agreed that it should be something that should be decided by the Court. Discussion continued to pursue on this matter.
- . Mrs. Kay Wright requested the November Convention Report from the Council. Mr. Williams assured Mrs. Wright that at the next Public Session he would make a Report on the events that took place at the Convention and the Projects they worked on. He would be gathering information along with Mrs. Rosa Black.

OLD BUSINESS

Air Condition Vent Coverings

Mr. Whitfield brought to the Councilmembers attention the cost estimate of removing the wood coverings on the air conditioners and replacing them with new ones. This report was obtained by Mr. Tobias and placed in each Councilmembers package.

Mr. Williams suggested that we draw-up some specifications to present to the contractor before deciding on a cost.

Mr. Blackwell recommended to the Council that the Public Works Committee get together and work out cost estimates and report back to the Council.

Security System-Revenue Sharing

Mr. Digennaro raised the question on the amount of money that was left in Revenue Sharing and wanted to know if we could use the money to complete the work on the Security System.

Mr. Tobias reported that the cost of the system was \$3600 and \$4,000 was approved for the system and it should be approximately \$300 left in the budget. Mr. Stump at the next meeting will report on the amount left in security system revenue sharing.

Mr. Williams suggested that we go in debt and let the money that comes in from cabaret's etc; go towards paying for items that are needed in completing the Activity Center.

Mayor Arrington stated that the money has to balance. If we spend \$1100 dollars there has to be some type of income in the budget to meet the cost i.e. (when you add a new item).

Mr. Fannon commented by saying that you can borrow against bills sent but not money not yet received, but you cannot exceed the expenditure items in the budget. There are no bills sent from the Activity Center and the income derived from Rentals have not yet been made.

NEW BUSINESS

C.I.P. Report-Peter Leiberg

Peter Leiberg, City Planner presented preliminary analysis of Capital Improvement Projects. The Committee has brought together individuals from different sectors of government. Mr. Frank Gilford from District Engineers gave a preliminary overview of the Street and Roads Improvement Project for 1980. Mr. Stump gave the committee a brief review on what kind of financing is available for project funding. A city tour done to evaluate what should be done in order to have a more detailed description when submitting request to the Council. Mr. Harshaw, Public Works gave his recommendation on the type of Capital Improvement Projects he would request for review. Top priority was Acquisition of Land-Central Avenue rated at twenty-nine points.



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Award-Ms. Lynn Bechdolt

Ms. Lynn Bechdolt was presented a plaque by Mayor Arrington. The plaque was read and presented February 11, 1980. She resigned her post as Assistant City Administrator.

Ms. Bechdolt stated she had learned a lot from the City and thanked the Mayor and Council.

Mr. Blackwell commended her on a job well done.

Activity Center

Mr. Gallion, Chairman Recreation Committee reported to the councilmembers the estimated cost of renting the Activity Center based on what resources were available. He also brought before the Council the need of an ice machine for the Center, and stated that there are no funds for this item.

Mr. Gallion stated that the Recreation Committee had planned a Opening Ceremony for parents.

Mr. Williams suggested that a tentative date be set for March 15, 1980 for the opening of the recreation center.

Mr. Gallion expressed the need for items that should be considered before renting the center; coat hangers, potato chips, ice buckets, cups, etc;.

FY 1979 Audit

Mr. Tobias reported to Councilmembers that a meeting had been scheduled with Mr. Callo and councilmembers were welcome to attend. Questions were directed to Mr. Tobias from the councilmembers on the cost of the Audit and the general work that had been done.

CDBG-Lobbying Strategy

Mr. Tobias asked that the councilmembers contact the County Council due to the noncommitment of the County on the Street and Road Project. He suggested a strong lobbying strategy on the part of the City Council.

Mr. Blackwell recommended that the councilmembers make at least one call next week to the County Council to stress the importance of receiving the grant money for the Street and Road Project Improvement.

Mayor Arrington stated that the only way to convince the County Council would be 100% cooperation and participation. He suggested that each councilmember agree to each get ten people with a list of petitions and letters from the citizens and this would help convince the County. He said Mr. Tobias could call and pick a time on their Agenda and ask for a special audience during one of their work sessions. It would have to be done at the convenience of the County Council.

Mr. Whitfield stated that he would coordinate this effort.

Miscellaneous

Mr. Williams received a letter in his council box on the relocation of the Census office out of City Hall. It was mailed by Mrs. Rosalie Jones, Chairman of the Administrative Committee who had met with Ms. Washington, Regional Co-ordinator for the Census. It was the consensus of the Council (at an earlier meeting) that the letter be sent out under the signature of the Administrative Committee Chairman.

Mr. Walker from the Complete Count Committee addressed the council by asking, has another location been considered, and stated that the census would be bringing jobs to the City. He also asked if the present location could stay where it is since there is only six weeks before the project is completed.

Discussion continued to pursue on this matter.

Mayor Arrington-property proposal

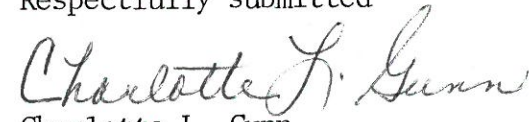
Mayor Arrington presented a plan to the Council on the acquisition of property across from Watkins Lumber Yard. The company he works for would like to purchase it to put a 3,074 sq. ft., one story building on it. It would provide seating for one hundred people and parking space for 83 cars. He stated that there was a problem because of the current zoning. The Company will only pay the zoning attorney if the Council agrees to support the request to build the restaurant. Mayor Arrington asked if the Council would discuss this matter at their Wednesday meeting.

Mr. Williams moved that the meeting adjourn.

Mr. Whitfield seconded the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 P.M..

Respectfully submitted



Charlotte L. Gunn  
Acting City Clerk